

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 07427 130621Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----038134 130622Z /17

P R 121509Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3581
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 7427

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IS, US
SUBJECT: BEGIN'S HEALTH

REF: TEL AVIV 6998 NOTAL

1. FROM SEVERAL RELIABLE JOURNALISTS WE HAVE HEARD THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN ALLEGEDLY SUFFERED A "BLACK OUT" DURING THE JUNE 4 CABINET MEETING. THE STORIES VARY AS TO WHETHER HE ACTUALLY FAINTED OR BECAME SO DIZZY THAT HE FELT THE NEED TO LIE DOWN. IN ANY CASE, THE CABINET MEETING WAS INTERRUPTED WHILE BEGIN WAS ATTENDED BY A MEDICAL TEAM. AFTER RECOVERING, THE PRIME MINISTER INSISTED ON RETURNING TO THE CABINET ROOM TO CONTINUE CHAIRINGTHE MEETING.

2. THE SAME SOURCES ALSO CLAIM RENEWED PRESSURE IS BEING APPLIED ON THE PRIME MINISTER BY HIS MEDICAL ADVISORS AND HIS CLOSEST ASSOCIATES TO UNDERGO OPEN HEART SURGERY. THUS FAR THE PRIME MINISTER HAS
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PAGE 02 TEL AV 07427 130621Z

ADAMANTLY REFUSED, ACCORDING TO THESE INFORMANTS. ON THE OTHER HAND, SHIMON PERES TOLD ME SATURDAY NIGHT THAT HE WAS CERTAIN THE OPEN HEART SURGERY STORY IS "TOTALLY FALSE."

3. PAY YOUR MONEY, AND TAKE YOUR CHOICE.
LEWIS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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